

Newsletter update – September 2021

Welcome to the September newsletter for the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership! It's been a very busy few months since the last edition, with lots of progress to tell you about. Here are some brief updates covering:

- [Events and training strategy / COP26](#)
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1) Events and training strategy / COP26

The ZCCP Events & Training programme underpins the Partnership's broader commitments on climate change responses, supporting the county to take the critical early steps on our journey towards net zero.

Initial Events & Training priorities have focused on:

- Development of a draft **E&T strategy**, interconnecting with other work strands including ZCCP's overall objectives, the draft marketing communications strategy, and the developing framework for monitoring & evaluation. Over the next few months we'll give ZCCP sector groups, the local authority climate partnership group, the Cumbria Sustainability Network (CSN) and other partners the opportunity to feed into the E&T strategy as well as reviewing and approving it.
- Preparatory work for a **learning needs analysis** across ZCCP, offering partners the chance to help shape forthcoming training programmes for maximum relevance and benefit.

- Prioritisation of learning needs will be complemented by a **skills audit**, to begin mapping the vast collective knowledge / skills / competences which clearly exists across such a diverse partnership.
- Development of a **database of training providers and learning opportunities**, mapped to learning needs across a range of competences.
- Identifying opportunities to highlight ZCCP's work in the run-up to the **COP26** summit in Glasgow. With heightened public and media interest, it's a great chance to demonstrate the connection and relevance of international negotiations to our work here in Cumbria at strategic and community levels.
- Ahead of COP we've been liaising with CSN groups to encourage local events and activities during the national **Great Big Green Week** (18th – 26th Sept), aiming to coordinate a diverse public-facing programme around Cumbria.
- We're also coordinating a **Zero Carbon Tour electric bus stop-off** in Cumbria in October, at Burneside where there are a variety of sustainability stories to tell about how community and industry are responding, as well as an opportunity for us to communicate the ZCCP vision.
- We're also progressing further opportunities for ZCCP to link to COP, including via development of **case studies**, and supporting **ZCCP youth programmes** to enable young people in Cumbria to effectively communicate their climate hopes and concerns.

For more information about any aspect of the Events and Training programme, please contact Nigel Jenkins - nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk

2) Cumbria Sustainability Network / Funding for community groups

The Cumbria Sustainability Network continues to evolve as a group and has developed new Terms of Reference. It has also generated new interest, most recently from potential groups in Shap, Crosthwaite, Armathwaite and Grasmere. See [Growing the sustainability network - CAfS](#)

A recent example of how groups can support each other across the county was the printing of 2000 copies of Sustainable Carlisle's leaflet on COP26 to be distributed to nine different sustainability groups to assist with their awareness-raising work.

Systems and processes are now in place for the administration of the £100,000 ZCC grassroots community fund, a website page has been developed to enable potential applicants to access the information they require, and discussions have been held within the Funding Steering Group in consultation with the CSN on the fund eligibility

criteria and priorities. We hope this fund will go live in the near future once the formal External Delegated Agreement has been finalised with the National Lottery.

In the meantime, we can provide sustainability groups with financial support to help with the delivery of Great Big Green Week and COP26 events. For more information, please contact Helen Attewell helen.attewell@cafs.org.uk

The National Lottery has also announced a new **“Together for Our Planet”** funding scheme, which will offer grants from £1,000 to £10,000 of National Lottery funding to support communities across the UK to take action on climate change. For further information see [Together for Our Planet | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

3) Citizens' Juries

The Copeland People's Panel on Climate Change commenced on 15th July – the first borough wide Citizens' Jury on climate change to be held in Cumbria. Thirty Copeland residents have come together digitally to answer this important question: *“What action should we take in our homes, businesses and local area to respond to climate change?”*

The panel has met four times to date and will continue in September after a short break. By the end of September, the panel members will have decided on a set of recommendations for Copeland Council and other relevant organisations to consider.

Further information, including recordings of the presentations at each session, can be found on Copeland Borough Council's website:

[Climate Change People's Panel | Copeland Borough Council](#)

4) Weekly climate change news

As part of the support being provided to local authorities to address climate change, a weekly email update is being produced, which covers items such as key government announcements, news on climate change projects in Cumbria, grant funding opportunities for the public sector, relevant webinars and other information that might be of interest.

Although the target audience is local authority officers working on climate change, it contains information that will be of broader interest to other partners. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list, or have information that would be of interest to local authorities in Cumbria, please contact Natalie Naisbitt, ZCC Local Authority Climate Co-ordinator, email: natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk

5) Youth climate summit and other youth projects

For those who don't know me, my name is Rosie Bradshaw, I'm a Community Action Officer for Penrith ACT (PACT) and since June I've also taken an interim role working on youth projects for as part of the Zero Carbon Cumbria programme. Here is a summary of what I've been up to, what's in the pipeline for the next few months and how you can get involved.

Cumbria Youth Climate Action Summit 2021

I've been working with the fantastic Laura Goad (CDEC), Chris Barry (CCC), and Graham Frost (Robert Ferguson School), to put together the third **Cumbrian Youth Climate Action Summit**, an event which will be held online on **Friday 15 October 2021** for schools in Cumbria.

The audience is from upper primary to upper sixth. We already have interest from seven schools, which we hope will grow in the new school year in September. If you know any school who may be interested, please feel free to forward them this [form of interest](#), and email YouthVoices@cafs.org.uk if you'd like more details.

The day itself will be a mixture of sessions, with speakers and workshops on topics ranging from ZCC aims and objectives, to green jobs, to tackling eco-anxiety, to how young people can get their voices heard by decision makers. The emphasis will be on making sure real decisions are influenced, and youth voices are heard and acted on before and after the event. Part of this is the formation of a Youth Steering Group, outlined below.

The Zero Carbon Cumbria Youth Steering Group

Influencing the agenda and running the workshops at the Youth Summit will be the Youth Steering Group (a group whose first point of order will be finding a catchier name for themselves!). This group of 10 young people, aged 12-18 years old, who live, go to school, or work in Cumbria, will be meeting for six sessions in the run-up to the Youth Summit. As well as planning, they will also learn valuable skills in leadership and advocacy.

Mapping youth and climate organisations

I have also been mapping the youth, climate, and related organisations in Cumbria. You can find the map [here](#), and the different types of organisation are on different layers. This can help you find organisations in your local area where you can collaborate with youth groups. If you'd be interested in a session on how to use it please let me know and I'd be happy to help. There are a few 'Eco Schools' listed who have already or are actively trying to find outside organisations to engage with and the Scouting Association are doing a very active environmental drive right now so it could be a good time to collaborate.

Although, I've mapped many organisations, I'm aware there are likely some I've missed out. If you know of any organisations which should be on the map, please let me know by emailing youthvoices@cafs.org.uk, and I'll get them added asap.

Youth action this summer

Another thing we're highlighting is all the amazing stuff young people are already doing around Cumbria. We'll be contacting schools and youth organisations at the start of September to share, whether it's a litter pick with their school club or going on bike rides with the grandparents. These examples will then be showcased at the Youth Summit. If you have any examples please send photos or videos to youthvoices@cafs.org.uk before 15 September 2021.

If there's any aspect of youth projects you'd like to discuss, please feel free to give me a shout, and I'll keep you all updated with the outcomes of the Youth Summit in a couple of months!

6) Sector group updates

Waste Carbon Reduction Group update

The Waste Carbon Reduction Group held its third meeting on 6 July. It is strengthening links with other sectors and industries, and received a presentation from Emma Porter, Story Contracting Managing Director, on the Rebuild social enterprise, which will divert construction waste by taking unused materials from building projects. It has a meeting scheduled for 21 September to discuss synergies with other sector groups and policy areas, as well as development of an action plan.

Discussions with ZCCP are ongoing to finalise an approach and timescales for the Waste Sector Baseline, to ensure that it aligns with the Cumbria Carbon Baseline methodology whilst also factoring in performance management and monitoring.

Zero Carbon Housing Group update

The next ZCCP Housing Group meeting will include a focus on zero carbon and new build, including the Future Homes Standard and opportunities arising from St Cuthbert's Garden Village in Carlisle South.

A consortium of the six Cumbrian district councils have secured approximately £5 million of North West Energy Hub funding.

The consortium has put together some initial measure mixes (types of installations), which should address some of the private and social tenure homes that are deemed to be fuel poor and have low EPC ratings.

This mix includes:-

- EWI (External wall insulation)
- Solar PV
- Double glazing and doors
- ASHP (Air source heat pumps)
- Loft insulation
- Underfloor insulation
- Cavity wall insulation

Meetings have been held with the Cumbria Housebuilders Group around engaging with Cumbria based contractors to deliver these green energy measures.

The bidding round for Wave 1 Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) competition opened for 8 weeks on 23 August, for which the Government has announced up to £160m in financial year 2021/22, delivering up to January 2023. Wave 1 funding is based on a “worst first, fabric first, lowest regrets approach”, emphasising fabric improvements to ensure heat loss prevention measures are installed before other energy performance measures.

7) Spotlight on Art Gene

Art Gene in partnership with Barrow Borough Council has secured £1.75m through the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership and European Regional Development Fund, to deliver Low Carbon Barrow, a 2-year programme of low carbon initiatives and events for the town. As part of this programme, Art Gene is developing an innovative low carbon demonstration vehicle called a bug-out <https://www.art-gene.co.uk/news/bug-out-tender/> and has just appointed a low carbon grants lead to help community members to access financial support.

During November Art Gene will also be delivering a set of artists' residencies and public climate focused events around food futures and biodiversity, on their Allotment Soup Community Growing space see <https://www.art-gene.co.uk/project/allotment-soup/>.

8) Spotlight on “Home Grown Here”

Cumbrian farmers have dedicated acres of land to growing fruit and vegetables this year, thanks to support from a new initiative, Home Grown Here.

The scheme will see a tasty range of fresh produce grown in the county, from peas and potatoes to apples to rhubarb. Fresh from the fields, it will all be enjoyed by Cumbrians and visitors through local retailers, cafés, restaurants, hotels, farm shops and veg box schemes.

It's the brainchild of the Eden-based growers' co-operative VistaVeg, and is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund as part of the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership's ambitious emission-reduction programme to make Cumbria carbon neutral by 2037. For more information please see [New scheme boosts fruit and vegetable growing in Cumbria - CAfS](#).

9) Other news

- We have been delighted by the success of the **carbon literacy** training courses and have received very positive feedback both in terms of improved knowledge and also that attendees feel more empowered to take action. Any partner interested in the training should contact carbonliteracy@cafs.org.uk. For details of open courses, please see [Events - CAfS](#).
- We are very pleased that **Jaki Bell**, Marketing and Communications Manager at CAfS, will be leading on the strategic communications for ZCC. She is progressing the ZCC marketing and communications strategy, which will come to the partnership for agreement, as well as providing support for active ZCC projects. One of the next tasks will be to collate key comms contacts and resources of each partner in ZCCP and members will receive a form shortly, asking for this information.

10) Names and contact details

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